Lake budget approved

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lion budget Wednesday for 2012 that years. is \$3.72 million higher than last year's

spending plan.

Commissioners said the budget would allow the county to stop the bleeding in terms of further cuts to Lake County commissioners unani- departments as the budget had contin-

eral fund in 2012 is \$58,924,650 and the carryover balance heading into the 1 each year to approve a permanent year was \$2.7 million, said county Budget Director Joel DiMare.

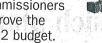
Commissioner Daniel P. Troy mously approved a \$58,551,886 mil- ued to shrink for many of the previous said the anticipated revenue level is similar to what the county received in porary one. The estimated revenue for the gen- 2005.

State law gives counties until April budget, and Lake County had operated under a \$13.51 million temporary budget approved in December. The permanent budget supersedes the tem-

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It's official

Lake County commissioners approve the 2012 budget.



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Budget

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plan includes the 0.5 percent agement Department. increase in the county's sales tax rate that takes effect April their from the state.

The other part of the com-

stormwater fees collected stewards of these possessions." from property owners in communities that participate in stabilize current county oper-Commissioners said their the county's Stormwater Man- ations without adding more Aufuldish said the temporary

Commissioners also said budget includes 1. However, there is a lag of \$1.5 million set aside for three months before the badly needed repairs and the county owns.

"We really have to address scheduled to take place next tures of those facilities," Troy

would have been closed withsaid.

missioners' sales tax plan is the long-term capital expendi- county to what it had seen in part-time county," Aufuldish previous years," Troy said. "It said. year and consists of a 1.1-mill said. "These are facilities that allows us to preform our stat-

Passage of the budget will than in previous years."

staff. That includes the county budget had a \$3 million to ago. iail and juvenile detention \$4 million hole in it, so the center that would have faced a increased revenue will allow reduction in operations or the county to run smoother.

100 jobs and shutting down "It does not regrow the facilities and making us a

with a little more stability including investment earnings reimbursement that now total about \$1 mil-Commissioner Robert E. lion down from \$8 million to

"I think it's important for people to realize that we also conduct a state-required aren't spending because we "We would (have been) raised the sales tax, what officials anticipate another county receives sales revenues upgrades to the buildings that out the additional revenue, he looking at losing more than we're doing is maintaining and that's what this budget. Officials have said that drop does," Sines said.

poised to lose additional rev- lar percentage drop as to the Commissioner Raymond E. enue as there will be further one that occurred three years reduction in property taxes are owned by the taxpayers and utory functions for the remain- Sines said the county has lost reductions from the state's ago.

and \$1 million reduction in the commissioners are the der of 2012 and to do that many sources of revenue, Local Government Fund and revenue streams caused by the state phasing out tangible personal \$9 million just a few years property taxes and the deregulation of utilities.

The county this year will update on property values and drop in valuations, Troy said.

in property valuations could Troy said the county is be around 10 percent, a simi-